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Amin accuses S. Africa

PORT LOUIS, Mauritius, July 3 (AFP). — Ugandan President Idi Amin today accused South Africa of being behind the failed attempt to assassinate him with hand grenades last month.

The would-be killers, who hurled three grenades at him as he was leaving a police college near Kampala, killing his driver, were sent from South Africa in 1972, the Ugandan leader said.

Field Marshal Amin attended the Organisation African Unity (OAU) summit meeting here.

King Hussein visits army units

AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein visited the Second Army Division Saturday morning where he met with a number of the division's senior officers and soldiers.

The King later visited units of the King Abdullah Brigade, where he was briefed on the activities and capabilities of the brigade.

During the visits, King Hussein gave advice and directions to the officers and soldiers of both the division and the brigade.

Meiry accuses named neighbour of coup attempt

KHARTOUM, July 3, (R). — President Jaafar Nimeiry told the Sudanese people in a national radio address today that loyal forces crushed a bid to overthrow rebels with foreign support.

He said that the rebels were reported to have taken over all strategic points at the capital Khartoum after the 46-year-old Nimeiry returned yesterday from an overseas tour.

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Nablus curfew imposed to stop Arab demonstrations

TEL AVIV, July 3 (Agencies). — The Israeli occupation authorities today imposed a curfew on the West Bank town of Nablus following demonstrations preceding the funeral of a 16-year-old Arab youth killed during demonstrations yesterday.

Town Mayor Bassam Shak'a said that yesterday's protests were against a new tax imposed by the Israeli authorities.

The curfew followed protests in the town after the death of the youth, Nidhal Al Shanteer, and injury of 13 other citizens.

Demonstrators pelted Israeli military forces with rocks and set fire to tyres in the town's market area today, witnesses said. No injuries were reported.

The demonstrations were against both the Israeli occupation authorities and in support of Palestinians in Lebanon.

The residents of Nablus, a traditional centre of Palestinian nationalism, have been angered by reports of the rightist attacks against Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut.

Most shops were closed today in Nablus and other towns in the northern part of the West Bank, as merchants protested against a value added tax due to be imposed next month by Israeli authorities.

The tax has been levied within Israel itself since Thursday.

The business strike was largely followed in Nablus, Jenin, Ramallah and Tulkarem.

Occupation forces in Arab Jerusalem tried to force striking Arab merchants to reopen their shops.

Arab informants described the protests as the most widespread in the West Bank since the killing of nine Arabs in a similar wave of anti-Israeli protests that ended two months ago.

Israeli troops had tried to break up the protesters with tear gas before resorting to "warning shots," Israeli authorities said for their part.

Meanwhile, armoured cars packed with armed and helmeted troops patrolled the town through the day.

Witnesses said that troops sealed off Nablus from the rest of the West Bank, keeping back newsmen and television crews.

It was the third straight day of demonstrations in Nablus, where Israeli troops clashed with demonstrators Thursday during a general business strike against Israeli government plans to impose the value added tax on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Israeli authorities delayed the introduction of VAT in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip specifically to avert troubles. But instead they raised the sales tax by an additional 8 per cent to prevent Israelis from making their purchases in the occupied Arab territories without paying VAT.

Arab businessmen and community leaders are opposed to VAT on the grounds that it violates the Geneva convention and other international treaties affecting populations under military occupation.

Kuwait believes the Egyptian economy is still badly affected by the state of war with Israel and has decided to continue its grant in spite of the reopening of the Suez Canal, the sources said.

Kuwait provided Syria with \$7 million in grants in each of the past two years on an ad hoc basis.

In addition to the grants to Egypt and Jordan, Kuwait has earmarked \$20 million for the Gulf and the Arabian south, the newspaper said.

No details were given but this category is believed to include grants to Bahrain, Oman and North and South Yemen.

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FREEDOM — Greek seamen arrive at Athens airport Saturday, flying in from Uganda, after they were released by the hijackers of the Air France plane. (AP wirephoto).

Back at Entebbe, Amin negotiates as hostages await hijackers' deadline

NAIROBI, July 3 (R). — President Idi Amin returned tonight to Entebbe to resume his hijacked Airbus negotiations, and according to Uganda Radio immediately called on Israel and the United States to act immediately because the situation was most critical.

He returned from a meeting in Mauritius of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) as the hijackers' deadline approached for the threatened execution of 110 passengers and crew of an Air France Airbus commandeered last Sunday by pro-Palestinian guerrillas.

The guerrillas have threatened to blow up the aircraft and execute the 98 passengers and 12 crew at 11:00 GMT Sunday unless Israel and four other countries release 53 Palestinians or pro-Palestinians held in prison in the five countries.

Uganda Radio said President Amin began negotiating with the guerrillas immediately on his return to Entebbe from Mauritius.

"Israel and America must do something immediately because the situation is now at its most crucial phase," Uganda Radio quoted President Amin as saying.

Most of the passengers are Israelis or Jews of another nationality.

Uganda Radio said the aircraft had already been taken to where it will be blown up if the hijackers' demands are not met. It also reported that the negotiations were becoming "difficult" and the situation more serious.

(In Tel Aviv, however, Israeli officials said earlier tonight the negotiations were progressing satisfactorily and there was a chance the hijackers would agree to postpone their deadline).

One group of hostages was released on Thursday after the Israeli government promised to negotiate over the release of 40 pro-Palestinians held in Israeli prisons.

But Somali Ambassador Hashi Abdullah Farah, who has been mediating with the hijackers, said the guerrillas were becoming increasingly suspicious of Israel's willingness to meet their demands.

The guerrillas claim to be members of the militant Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), but the PFLP in Beirut has denied this claim.

"They have a lot of suspicion as to the sincerity of the Israeli government," Mr. Hashi said. "It appears to them that Israel is dragging along."

"The lives of these people can only be saved if the Israeli government and other countries take a positive attitude — and a quick positive attitude," he said.

Mr. Hashi said he had expected some developments today "but nothing has happened."

"I never thought a national government would abandon its nationalities," he added, referring to Israel.

Mr. Hashi said he felt the other countries named by the hijackers — West Germany, Kenya, Switzerland, and France — were trying to keep a common front with Israel.

"I don't believe in playing politics," he said.

(Continued on page 6)

Riad returns to Damascus

Latest Lebanese ceasefire fails to take hold as camp battle rages on

BEIRUT, July 3 (R). — Lebanon's latest announced ceasefire failed to take hold in a storm of new fighting today around the beleaguered Palestinian camp of Tel Al Zaatar, under fierce rightwing attack for nearly two weeks.

Arab League Secretary-General Mahmoud Riad, who had announced that all sides had agreed to a truce at midnight last night, conferred with Palestinian leaders after talks on the rightwing side of the lines yesterday. He later returned to Damascus.

Near the building where today's talks were held, a leftist rocket-launching crew fired off occasional rounds into rightwing lines.

"In effect there is no ceasefire," a Palestinian spokesman said. He accused rightwing forces of launching two attacks on the camp this morning with reinforcements of armour and ground troops.

He said the camp, where about 15,000 Palestinians are eluding an increasingly tenuous existence in underground shelters, had still not been entered, although a fluctuating battle was continuing in areas around the camp which have been won and lost by both sides several times.

Rightwing radio stations, which claim the camp was entered yesterday, accused the leftist-Palestinian alliance of being responsible for the failure of the truce.

The Phalangist Party radio said the alliance had launched an attack on the rightist stronghold of Araya, in the hills southeast of Beirut.

The alliance has threatened to launch a counter-offensive in retaliation for the rightwing siege of Tel Al Zaatar and its neighbour Jisr Al Basha, which fell earlier this week.

The Phalangist radio said rightwing leaders today voiced readiness to stop the shooting to "help reach an Arab solution to the crisis."

About 2,500 troops from four Arab nations are positioned at Beirut airport, but their Egyptian commander has said the force will fulfill its peace-keeping duties only if there is an effective ceasefire. Palestinians are demanding an

end to the siege of Tel Al Zaatar and the evacuation of Jisr Al Basha by the rightists as conditions for agreeing to a ceasefire.

Part of the Syrian intervention force has begun withdrawing slowly from outside the port of Sidon, the Palestinian spokesman also said.

Under a long-standing agreement only partly fulfilled, Syrian peace-making forces are due to pull back to the Lebanese hinterland to the east and north.

The pro-leftist Beirut Radio quoted Progressive Socialist Party leader Kamal Junblatt as saying today that "the fall of Tel Al Zaatar, if this ever happens, will lead to serious consequences in all parts of Lebanon."

Mr. Junblatt was addressing Mr. Riad during his meeting with Palestinian and leftist leaders.

According to Palestinian sources, today's rightwing attacks on Tel Al Zaatar camp had been repulsed.

A statement issued by the alliance announced the setting up of checkpoints on the approaches of southern areas from which Syrian troops had withdrawn. Patrols will also scour the region.

The Phalangist radio said tonight that rightwing forces were, by early afternoon, close enough to Tel Al Zaatar to shout at their opponents through loudspeakers, calling on them to surrender.

But the Voice of Palestine Radio said the joint forces defending

Tel Al Zaatar "smashed" the latest attacks on all fronts.

Meanwhile, President Hafez Assad of Syria this afternoon met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, who arrived in Damascus earlier today.

The Saudi minister conveyed to President Assad a verbal message from King Khalid of Saudi Arabia.

After Mr. Riad returned to Damascus today, he met there for three hours with his two fellow members of the Arab League peace mission — the Bahraini and Tunisian foreign ministers — Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam, Prince Saud Al Faisal, Libyan Premier Abdul Salam Jalloud, and two Palestinian leaders identified by the Syrian news agency SANA as Abu Mazen and Abu Maher.

Mr. Riad said afterwards the meeting reviewed today's peace-making efforts in Lebanon, and the Bahraini minister added that the Arab League trio would return to Cairo tomorrow to report back to the Arab League Council of foreign ministers.

In Tokyo, the foreign ministry today ordered the Japanese embassy staff in Lebanon to close the embassy temporarily and to leave the country.

Ambassador Noboru Sugiura is expected to leave Lebanon on Monday, if possible, for Tokyo to attend a conference of diplomats stationed in the Middle East next week, ministry sources said.



AFTER THE BATTLE — A group of rightwing Lebanese militiamen are pictured Saturday celebrating the capture of the Palestinian Jisr Al Basha camp on the edge of Beirut. (AP wirephoto).

With frogs jumping in Missouri America pulls out all the stops to celebrate its 200th birthday

NEW YORK, July 3, (R). — Americans take part in the world's most lavish birthday party tomorrow, celebrating their country's independence from Britain two centuries ago.

From New York, where most of the world's remaining tall ships will make a stately parade up the Hudson River, to village fireworks displays, Americans will mark the United States' 200th birthday in spectacular fashion.

The focus of attention will be on New York, the country's first capital, Philadelphia, where the Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776, and Boston, where the seeds of rebellion grew to full-scale revolution.

The red glare of rockets will illuminate the night sky over New York and George Washington's army will march again through New Jersey. Colourful ceremonies will be held at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, including the ringing of the Liberty Bell which heralded independence.

From the Atlantic to the Pacific and in American possessions outside the continental United States, bells will be rung for two minutes starting at 2:00 p.m. New York time (18:00 GMT) — the moment, historians claim, the 13 original colonies approved the De-

claration of Independence (although the Continental Congress had actually proclaimed it on July 2, 1776).

The most elaborate celebration will be held in New York, where George Washington took the oath of office as the first president and which served as the capital from 1789 to 1790.

Like the ghosts of a nautical past, nearly 200 sailing ships from 35 nations will sail up the Hudson in the most spectacular gathering of windjammers since clipper ships dominated the seas.

Lining the route will be millions of spectators, some paying as much as \$25 for good vantage points. More than 5,000 spectators, boats, together with warships from the U.S. and foreign nations, will line the sailing ships' route.

At night, a mammoth fireworks display, visible up to 25 miles away, will be staged at the entrance to New York harbour.

In Philadelphia, where more than a million visitors are expected, ceremonies will be held at Independence Hall, including a reading of the Declaration of Independence and an address by President Ford. A six-hour parade in the city will include marching units from all 50 states.

Mr. Ford, following a whirlwind schedule, will also watch the parade of tall ships in New York, visit Valley Forge — where George Washington's rag-tag army spent a bitterly cold winter during the Revolutionary War — and see a fireworks display near the Washington Monument in the capital.

Washington's celebration, like Boston's will be relatively low-key, apart from a huge fireworks display on the Fourth. A two-hour parade along Constitution Avenue, headed by Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller, today was expected to draw up to a quarter of a million spectators.

In Chicago, 1776 immigrants will take the oath of citizenship at a special ceremony, while the Pony Express will ride again in California and Colorado.

There will be log-rolling competitions in Alaska and Oregon, canoe races in Hawaii, bog-calling contests in Ohio, greased pig chases in Oklahoma and frog-jumping contests in Missouri.

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WINNER — Sweden's Bjorn Borg holds aloft the trophy after the final of the men's singles in the Wimbledon tennis championships Saturday afternoon. He beat Romanian Ilie Nastase 6-4, 3-7. (AP wirephoto).

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Applaud the goodness

It is difficult to add anything to the chorus of refreshing national glee that is sweeping the United States this Bicentennial year, all of which is culminating in today's July 4 celebrations. Simply to wish the American people a happy 200th birthday seems insufficient, but it is equally inappropriate, and somehow out of place, to pile accolades on top of praise on top of flag-waving flattery. It is not quite the American way, so to speak.

The grandeur of America lies in two basic things: the institutions of state, and the collective power of the American people. The institutions of state — the judicial system, the checks-and-balances of the national government, the federal system of power-sharing, the representative character of the two houses of the federal legislature — all these and more are the structures that give life and real meaning to the old truism that the American nation is one of laws, not of men, a fact most recently brought to life by the doings and undoing of Richard Nixon and Spiro Agnew, to name only the most notorious.

But these institutions and systems of the United States are put into their proper perspective when one appreciates that they are not trumpeted and waved about jingoistically by the American people, but rather they are taken for granted in a manner whose excesses, if any, are excesses of non-chalance. The American system derives its ultimate strength from the carefree manner in which its people assume it to be natural and appropriate, and expect it to be fair, efficient and universally applied. The American system, for all its faults and deficiencies, remains an extraordinary one, and if there is anything we can add to the birthday party taking place in the United States this year, it would be to remind the American people that the message and meaning of their national life does indeed transcend the frontiers of their immense land.

There will be a lot of flag waving this year and much celebrating in the United States, and rightly so. We would also like to pass a message along to every John Doe and Backwoods Joe and Farmhouse MaryLou in America to let them know that there are people throughout the world who see and appreciate the essence of America that is found in the plodding, dogged and somehow special character of the commonplace individual in the United States. If we can add our two cents worth to the national assessment that inevitably takes place on one's 200th birthday, we would like to send along our own commonplace salute to that attitude in America that takes for granted the guarantees of individual liberties that loom so lovely on every 4th of July.

We have our misgivings about many things in the United States, and we have made it clear where we find the poverty of some American institutions and initiatives to be lagging far behind the magnanimity of most others. But in taking a closer look at where the faults of America lie, it becomes clear that much of what we criticise about the United States stems from the skewed implementation of usually noble objectives. The clear goals and national purpose of the American people are almost without fault. But the road to implementing those goals of freedom, happiness and security is full of sinister sidetracks, and we find ourselves criticising America when we see that its people have been unwittingly led down one of those sidetracks, and when the detour in the American people's quest for their national objectives inevitably leads to the suffering, and the denial of the national objectives, of other people elsewhere in the world. That's un-American.

It is easy to distinguish between the personal goals of the American individual and the national or international objectives of power blocks and pressure groups in Washington. We make that distinction often, and will insist on pointing out the dichotomy of, and divergence between, the human objectives of the individual in America and the geo-political objectives of larger forces and institutions that take advantage of the sense of liberty in America to pursue their own limited goals.

These are the two faces of America — the good and the bad, the noble and ignoble. The good is among the best in the world, and today we join the other people of the globe who are so inclined to stand up and acknowledge the goodness.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Several Jordanian and Syrian newspapers Saturday commented on the latest try at a ceasefire in Lebanon, while Al Rai had some thoughts on Friday's abortive Sudanese coup d'etat.

Al Dustour says nobody can predict whether the newly announced ceasefire in Lebanon, that comes through efforts of the Arab League, will hold. Nevertheless, it comes as part of the repeated attempts to put an end to the destruction which Lebanon has sustained.

The paper says, if the ceasefire is implemented, it will provide a ray of hope on the possibility of moving the Lebanese tragedy from the theatre of destruction to the round-table dialogue. But if the ceasefire does not work, like so many predecessors have not, it would produce for the three-member Arab League ministerial commission an intricate situation that might need a new search for the solution of the problem.

Al Dustour voices the advisability of calling for an Arab summit meeting to tackle the Lebanese crisis, "because past experiences prove that many Arab problems were overcome when

Arab leaders got together in a concerted effort to deal with problems threatening the future of their nation."

Al Thawra and Al Baath of Damascus are doubtful whether the new ceasefire will hold, "because the planners of the conspiracy, the accomplices and the executioners were intent right from the start to hamper any agreement."

Al Thawra affirms the conspiracy was originally meant to distract the attention of the Arabs from their enemy's (Israel's) occupation of the Arab territories, that the Lebanese conspiracy should overshadow the Palestinian issue and polarise world opinion, thus preoccupying the Arabs with a new problem which aims at the liquidation of the Palestinian issue.

In a separate column, Al Baath refers to what it calls the malicious campaigns waged by certain spiteful elements against Syria. It says it is natural that Britain, the U.S., Israel and others are against Syria's "noble" stand towards Lebanon. Again, the paper offers, it is natural that Iraq, Kamal Jumblatt, certain Fateh leaders and certain Arabs

Doudine reviews achievements of Cooperatives movement

AMMAN. — The Jordanian Cooperatives Organisation Director General, Mr. Marwan Doudine, held a press conference Saturday morning at the headquarters of the organisation here on the occasion of International Cooperatives Day, and hailed the cooperative workers in the West Bank for their continued opposition to the Israeli occupation authorities. The cooperatives movement in the West Bank, he said, has been inactive since 1967, since when the number of cooperative societies there has been kept at 238, with a total of 14,377 members.

The government during 1975-1976 advanced to these societies loans totalling JD10,000 for various development purposes.

Reviewing the achievements of the cooperatives movement in Jordan, Mr. Doudine thanked the government, on behalf of all the cooperative members, for the support it provides to the Jordanian Cooperatives Organisation. He said government has decided to increase its annual financial support to the organisation from JD79,000 in 1975 to JD132,000 in 1976.

The treasury's participation in the projects of the organisation has been fixed at JD150,000 a year during the coming five years of the 1976-1980 development plan.

The cooperatives movement, he said, has worked towards an increase of agricultural productivity, an example of which could be seen in the project sponsored by the East Irbid Cooperative Society, which aims to double production of wheat — a target successfully achieved by the society since an average of 250-285 kgs of wheat per dunum of cultivated land has been produced lately, while nearby lands planted by individuals have produced only 100 kgs per dunum.

From 1975 until mid-1976, Mr. Doudine said, 38 new cooperative societies have been established; half of them are agricultural cooperatives.

Speaking on the organisation's mission to educate its members, he said that it had so far organised 48 cooperative seminars in



Mr. Marwan Doudine at his press conference Saturday.

53 cities and villages in the Kingdom, 24 training courses for cooperative members.

The cooperatives movement in Jordan, Mr. Doudine concluded has planted during the past 6 months 110,000 dunums with improved seeds as part of the agricultural five-year plan to double wheat production. This has been done at a cost of JD225,000.

The International Cooperatives Movement, established in 1895, includes 86 countries with 673,000 societies, representing 326 million cooperative workers, he also said.

Imported cement to be exempt from taxes

AMMAN. — The Ministry of Industry and Commerce will soon take necessary steps to exempt imported cement from any customs duties and taxes the ministry's Acting Undersecretary, Salah Ali Rida, said Saturday.

This step, he added, is to help solve the problem of the shortage of cement in the country, and to boost the construction business to help alleviate housing shortages.

The Ministry, he said, had earlier allowed merchants to import cement on condition they sell it at the official price fixed by the government.

Opens here Monday

American Centre exhibit tells story of "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness"

For many persons around the world, the American struggle for independence 200 years ago brings to mind images of colonists disguised as Red Indians throwing highly-taxed tea off a British ship in Boston. Or they remember the story of Paul Revere hanging a lantern in the Old North Church and riding through town at midnight to warn of the approach of British soldiers.

But the American Revolution was much more than colourful battles and brave deeds. The real story concerned the changes that took place in the hearts of the people as they began to see themselves as citizens of a new and independent nation.

The long post-revolution struggle to establish social and political institutions and to earn a live-

lihood in the fertile but hostile wilderness developed the characteristics of independence and enterprise which people the world over associate with Americans to this day.

This is the story that is being told by the American Center's exhibit entitled "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," which is on display in more than 400 cities around the world this summer. It opens here in Amman on Monday evening.

The exhibit includes a section on the rebellion against the British Crown, but it is more concerned with ideas than battles. Why, for example, did previously loyal colonists decide that it was time to break from their mother country? How did they really rally the 13 colonies to present a common front?

After the war, Americans were faced with all the tasks of creating a new nation. Explorers like Lewis and Clark pushed westward, while economic and industrial expansion took root in the east.

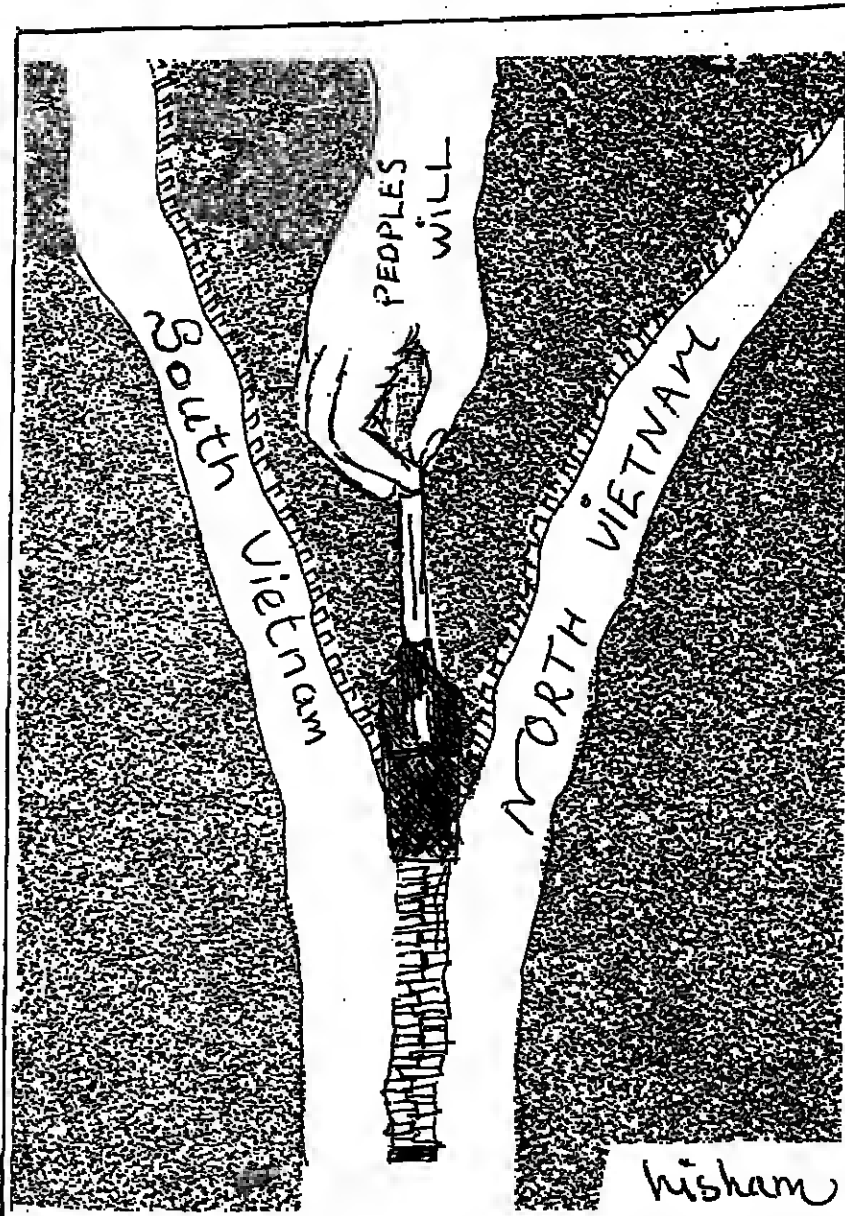
Influences from many European cultures combined to form the foundations of new art, music, customs, and a vocabulary of American words.

Patriot Benjamin Rush said: "The American war is over, but this is far from being the case with the American Revolution. On the contrary, nothing but the first act of the great drama is closed. It remains yet to establish and perfect our new forms of government."

The exhibit's title is taken from the Declaration of Independence, which proclaimed that "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" are basic rights to which all people are entitled. The exhibit is one way in which America is sharing the 200th anniversary of its Independence with other countries.

The people, places and customs associated with America's infancy are shown in hundreds of pictures. Some are from the book "Birth of America," in which photographer John Stage sensitively captured scenes showing how early towns and rural areas must have looked.

Other pictures are of paintings



Additional contribution by Britain to UNRWA

Following is the text of the press release issued on 28 June by the UK Delegation to the U.N.

"The United Kingdom Permanent Representative today informed the Commissioner-General of UNRWA that the United Kingdom Government have now agreed, subject to parliamentary approval, to make an additional contribution to UNRWA in 1976 of £200,000 which would be increased, up to a ceiling of £1 million, to ten per cent of the additional contributions made to UNRWA since the beginning of May. Excluded from this pledge would be any additional contribution by the European Economic Community as a whole, in which the

United Kingdom would participate, and any additional contribution by the USA, which over the years has been by far the largest contributor to UNRWA's funds. The offer came in response to repeated appeals by the Commissioner-General of UNRWA for additional funds to meet its financial crisis and following a meeting arranged by the Secretary-General in which he also called for additional contributions.

The United Kingdom Government hope that there will be a sufficient response to these appeals to enable them to increase their offer to the full £1 million. The offer is in addition to the United Kingdom Government's regular contribution to UNRWA which was increased this year to £3 million and to contributions made through Britain's membership of the European Economic Community."

NATIONAL BRIEFS

● AMMAN. — The Jordanian Cooperatives Organisation Director General, Marwan Doudine, will open Monday at 6:00 p.m. at the British Council Hall the second art exhibition by the Jordanian artist Rafea Sha'ban.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Culture and Information, Salah Abu Zeid, Saturday received General Kho Nsbo, Nationalist Chinese tourism director, his assistant, and the Chinese press attaché in Amman.

● AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a congratulatory cable to the Governor-General of Canada Jules Léger on the occasion of Canada's national day.

● AMMAN. — A civil aviation delegation left here Saturday for Karachi on a short visit to discuss matters relevant to air transport and landing rights for Alia, which issue from the bilateral agreement concluded last year.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Communications, Dr. Mohammad Al Zeben, Saturday received the

Jordanian appointed to head U.N. centre in Romania

AMMAN. — Mr. Abdul Dajani, a Jordanian national, has been appointed by U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to head the U.N. Information Centre in Romania, effective 1.

Mr. Dajani, who started with the U.N. in 1950, has held a number of responsible positions at the international organisation prior to this appointment.

Delegations arrive to attend cities

AMMAN. — A delegation, sent by the city of Kuwait, by Kuwait's Municipality Director General Mohammed Ma'washarji, arrived here today to participate in the 10th Arab Cities Organisation permanent bureau session to start here Monday.

The Kuwaiti delegation welcomed at the airport by Amman Mayor Mohammad Ma'washarji, and Arab Cities Organisation rector Taleb Al Taher, as a number of municipality officials.

In a press statement, Mr. Ma'washarji said the visit will help cooperation between the municipalities, and that the centre will achieve its aims.

Later Saturday, the delegation representing Al Ain city, United Arab Emirates, arrived here to participate in the session.

Nationalist Chinese eyes tourism cooperation

AMMAN. — The Director General of Tourism, Ghaleb Al-Nasbi, Saturday received Kho Nsbo, Nationalist Chinese tourism director, who is on a visit to Jordan.

The two discussed tourism cooperation between the two countries, and ways to organise a group of Chinese tourists to visit Jordan and China.

The Chinese government, through the Chinese Red Servicemen's Cooperative to help build a Chinese hotel at the Aqaba hotel.

San'a university head due here July 15

AMMAN. — The President of the University of San'a in the Arab Republic, Dr. Hassan Al-Hadi, will arrive here on July 15 for a day official visit to hold talks with University of Jordan officials on ways to bolster and coordinate cooperation between the two institutions.

Dr. Makki, who will be accompanied by a delegation including the university's Secretary General, Salem Sakka, his assistant, and Dr. Makki's adviser, will look over the facilities implemented by the university of Jordan, its activities and future projects, besides holding a number of tourist and archaeological sites.

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OPEN INVITATION

On the occasion of America's 200th Birthday the Ambassador of the United States of America invites you to attend the opening of a Bicentennial exhibit
"LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS"
July 6, through 22 - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
The American Center
Third Circle - Jabal Amman

Bicentennial fervour reaches a peak as America rings in its third century

NEW YORK, July 3. (R) — There's a bicentennial coffin and bicentennial candy, there's red, white and blue everywhere and the stars and stripes go on forever.

Bicentennial fervour, as the United States arrives at the 200th anniversary of its independence, has reached fever pitch with an outpouring of patriotism, flag-waving and love of country, right or wrong.

Gaudy but by no means cheap souvenirs abound on shop shelves across the land, with bicentennial symbols emblazoned on everything from T-shirts to liquor bottles to fire station doors, besides the coffin and the candy.

On the roof of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, a squad of 45 workmen toil daily to run thousands of five-by-three feet American flags up and down 20 flag masts.

Some 28,000 have already flown atop the masts, albeit for a few seconds only, and another 9,000 will flutter there fleetingly on Sunday.

Such is the public demand throughout America for a flag that

has flown over the seat of government.

Patriotism is suddenly back in fashion after the traumas of the 1960s and early 1970s.

Vietnam and Watergate appear all but forgotten.

Nobody wishes to be reminded of the war or of the president who was forced out of the White House in disgrace.

Yet 100,000 American sons who resisted military draft by fleeing abroad are still fugitive from their homeland and still await amnesty. Richard Nixon was pardoned for the crimes he might have committed in office.

The nation that only seven years ago gloried in putting a man on the moon now sees on television senior politicians caught up in sex scandals, executives of the world's biggest corporations admitting bribery on a global scale, disclosures of spying on Americans and foreigners by its intelligence agencies and its largest cities in financial trouble.

Yet the country that fought for its sovereignty from the British colonial hegemony of King George

III two centuries ago continues to attract fresh, young blood.

It is still a haven for refugees, minorities and immigrants from virtually every other country in the world, free in this land of foreigners to prosecute "the pursuit of happiness" enshrined in the Declaration of Independence.

The nation that gave the world such mundane examples of the American genius as blue jeans, Coca-Cola, westerns, rock 'n' roll, hamburgers and women's lib is widely perceived abroad as the only hope for the West.

Overseas tourists flock to its landmarks, from the Statue of Liberty in New York to the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, 3,000 miles across the continent.

Some five million visitors will be in New York on Sunday alone to witness the unique spectacle of the mightiest armada of sailing ships assembled in one place since the great sea battles of the early 19th century.

More than 225 sailing ships and boats from 35 nations led by 16 classic square-riggers are al-

ready on their way from Newport, Rhode Island, after crossing the Atlantic Ocean by the power of wind against canvas.

They will be here on Sunday jamming New York's bustling harbour together with more than 50 modern warships from 30 countries and 5,000 other craft playing spectators on the Hudson River.

President Ford will be senior reviewing officer of the fleet.

In every city across the 50 states of the union, America's 215 million people will celebrate with parties and parades, feasts and fireworks.

In Philadelphia, the long-silent Liberty Bell will peal again for two minutes at 2 p.m. (18:00 gmt) signalling the mass ringing of thousands of bells across the land to proclaim simultaneously America's 200th birthday.

Leading radical like actress Jane Fonda will observe the day with political rallies and the American Indian Movement—the first Americans—has been granted a licence to mass up to 700 protesters outside the White House over the next six days.

U.S. ponders concessions to prevent Panama Canal flare-up

The scene: a small tropical Central American land where trade winds waft in off the Caribbean and palm trees gently sway—a rather idyllic setting.

The time: a date in the near future.

Suddenly, this peaceful scene is convulsed by the sound of explosions and machinegun fire. A band of angry young terrorists moves onto United States territory and takes over a military installation. Major fighting erupts, and before long, the United States is engaged in a serious military clash.

Far from being the plot of the midnight movie, this scene or a variation on it haunts many in Washington who wonder if it might result from a failure of current negotiations between the U.S. and Panama towards writing a new treaty governing the Panama Canal and the zone surrounding it.

Moreover, this concern is heightened by the intrusion of the Panama issue into the U.S. primary election campaigns by former California Gov. Ronald Reagan, who has levelled "giveaway" charges against the Ford administration in connection with the negotiations.

Along with perhaps a majority of U.S. citizens, Mr. Reagan holds that the U.S. "bought, paid for, and owns" the Panama Canal and the 533-square-mile zone.

His account of history, however, is blurred, according to many in Washington who argue that if the Reagan view is allowed to prevail, the current treaty negotiations between Panama and the U.S. will fail and lead to inevitable incidents like the terrorist scenario depicted earlier.

Just such an incident took place in 1964 when Panamanians surged across the frontier between their country and the Canal Zone. After five days of violent rioting, 21 Panamanians and 3 U.S. citizens were dead—and relations between Panama and the U.S. broken.

"The next time it happens," says an administration source in Washington, "it won't be just the Panamanians, but many from Latin America who will surge across the frontier."

That may overstate the case, but there is no mistaking the strong feeling of support that Latin America gives Panama in the debate.

Panamanians and Latin Americans in general long have argued that the arrangement under which the U.S. operates and controls the Panama Canal is an anachronism and ought to be changed. Successive U.S. administrations, dating back to that of President Eisenhower, have tended to agree.

Since 1973, the U.S. has been negotiating a new treaty, and substantial progress towards writing a document to replace that of 1903 has been made. But now that the issue has become a political football, that progress is in doubt.

The root of the problem is historic. Following the French failure to complete the construction of a canal through the narrow Isthmus of Panama, the U.S. moved to take over the effort. But Columbia, which then owned the land, was reluctant to approve the U.S. initiative.

Under President Theodore Roosevelt, the U.S. in 1903 inspired the revolt of the province of Panama from Columbia and in rather dubious circumstances imposed the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty on the new nation two weeks after it declared its independence.

The Panamanian signatory was not even a Panamanian, but rather a Frenchman, Philippe Bunau-Varilla. He had been engaged in the abortive French canal effort and sought to save France from the stigma of its earlier failure and French investors from the devastation of financial loss.

Secretary of State John Hay commented to Sen. John C. Spooner shortly before he signed the document: "You know and I know how many points are in the treaty to which many patriotic Panamanians would object."

Hay later characterised the treaty as "vastly advantageous to the United States, and we must confess, not so advantageous to Panama."

The U.S. went on to build the canal amid the most horrendous of circumstances—terrain, disease, costs, and other obstacles. It was, in a way, the moonshot of

the early 1900s, "man's greatest triumph over nature."

It was hailed—and rightly so—as a testimony to U.S. ingenuity. The canal functions today as well as it did in 1912 when its locks first opened to world shipping.

But almost from the beginning, the U.S. has been locked in struggle over the 1903 treaty. The basic problem is the ambiguous wording of that document.

It extends to the U.S. "the use, occupation, and control" of the zone "in perpetuity." It also accords to the U.S. "the rights, power and authority" to possess and exercise as "if it were the sovereign."

On first glance, that would seem to give the U.S. perpetual sovereignty over the Canal and the Zone surrounding it.

That is the way the high school textbooks on which most North Americans have been nurtured state the case.

A variety of other issues are connected with the Canal and the current debate. Here is a rundown on some of the main topics: Sovereignty: Mr. Reagan argues that the Canal Zone is "sovereign U.S. territory every bit the same as Alaska and all the states that were carved from the Louisiana Purchase."

This view, however, does not square with the prevailing attitude among scholars and legal authorities, as well as people in the Department of State, who hold that the U.S. obtained "rights" not "ownership" when it took over the zone in 1903 under terms of the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty.

Why would the U.S. have agreed to pay an annuity of \$250,000 (now up to \$2.3 million yearly) if it had acquired ownership? They ask in effect. Isn't this compensation something akin to rent?

The key passages in the 1903 treaty are these:

"Article II: The Republic of Panama grants to the United States in perpetuity the use, occupation and control of a zone of land and land under water for the construction, maintenance, operation, sanitation, and protection of said Canal of the width of 10 miles..."

"Article III: The Republic of Panama grants to the United States all the rights, power, and authority within the Zone... which the United States would possess and exercise if it were the sovereign of the territory... to the entire exclusion of the exercise by the Republic of Panama of any such sovereign rights, power, or authority."

As early as 1905, in a report prepared by then Secretary of War William Howard Taft, it was recognised that what the U.S. acquired was use, not ownership of the land.

"The truth is that while we have all the attributes of sovereignty," the Taft report reads, "the very form in which these attributes are conferred in the treaty seems to preserve the titular sovereignty over the Canal Zone to the Republic of Panama."

Subsequent decisions in a variety of U.S. cases have tended to support this thesis.

Moreover, some very routine attributes of sovereignty are missing in the Canal Zone. For instance, a U.S. citizen can live in the Zone only as long as he or she works there. A child born in the

Zone is not automatically a U.S. citizen.

The weight of evidence seems to suggest that the U.S. does not own the Canal Zone—although Mr. Reagan and a large segment of the U.S. population think otherwise—and that what the U.S. has in the Panama Canal Zone are rights and privileges. The U.S. has jurisdiction then, but not ownership.

Commercial Value: The Panama Canal was easily one of the most important developments in the growth and expansion of the U.S. after the turn of the century. It provided a fast and sure route for coast-to-coast shipping. Sizeable portions of U.S. imports and exports used the canal in the early part of the century.

But the canal's value to the U.S. is not so great today as many people assume.

Only 13 per cent of all U.S. exports by value and 5 per cent of imports—as well as between only 1 and 2 per cent of coast-to-coast trade—transited the waterway in 1975. The totals may be lower in 1976.

A number of Latin American countries, particularly those along South America's west coast, are much more dependent on the canal than the U.S. is.

Moreover, the canal is suffering a sharp decline in overall use. This year, total traffic may be down as much as 1,200 ships from the 13,875 that went through the waterway in 1975.

The canal is losing as much as \$10 million a year. Higher tolls, it is feared, might drive even more traffic away. Yet some increases are likely, and the Panama Canal Company has asked for small boosts effective later this year.

One of the problems is the increasingly larger ships now plying the oceans are too big to pass through the canal. The locks are 110 feet wide, and many of the supertankers are 170 feet wide. Aircraft carriers now being used and built have hulls 133 feet wide and flight decks 257 feet wide.

The growing use of container ships that can piggyback their standard-size containers onto truck and railroad car mounts at U.S. ports also has cut sharply into canal traffic.

"We could easily get along without the canal," comments a U.S. official.

Military Importance: The canal has become less strategic than in the days when the U.S. had a one-ocean Navy. Moreover, the canal is more vulnerable today to sabotage, guerrilla action, or conventional attack than it was 50 years ago.

The Pentagon recognises this, and Gen. George Brown, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is quoted as saying: "The canal can be more effectively defended jointly (with the Panamanians) than it can be by the U.S. alone."

This about-face on Pentagon policy is a significant development in light of the military's longstanding argument that the Canal Zone and the 13 military bases in the zone are vital to the defence of the U.S.

Even that argument is finding less support today in the corridors of the Pentagon. Many top officers hold that the strategic value of the Canal Zone is diminishing. (CSM).

President Ford's 4th of July Bicentennial message

WASHINGTON, July 3. — Following is the full text of a "Fourth of July Bicentennial Message" from President Ford, issued at the White House July 3:

"Two hundred years ago we, the people of the United States of America, began a great adventure which stirred the imagination and kindled the hopes of men and women throughout the world. The day was July 4, 1776. The occasion, the signing of our Declaration of Independence.

No other nation in history has dedicated itself more specifically to the proposition that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Two centuries later, as we celebrate our Bicentennial Year of independence, the great American adventure continues. The hallmark of that adventure has always been an eagerness to explore the unknown, whether it lay across an ocean or a continent, across the vastness of space or the frontiers of human knowledge. Because we have always been ready to try new and untested enterprises in government, in commerce, in the arts and sciences and in human relations, we have made unprecedented progress in all of these fields.

"While reaching for the unknown, Americans have also kept their faith in this wisdom and experience of the past. Colonists and immigrants brought with them cherished values and ideals in religion and in culture, in law and learning which, mixed with the native American ways, gave our rich American heritage."

Who pays fine for the dog brought in to Britain by a Libyan who flew on a French plane?

LONDON, July 3 (R). — A Libyan mechaic who was fined £275 for illegally bringing his Chihuahua dog into Britain today blamed the airline on which he was a passenger for the offence.

Mr. Mohammed Al Gibali, 23, from Tripoli, told a magistrate's court that cabin staff on the Air France airline had fed and petted the dog but said nothing about Britain's anti-rabies laws. He said the airline should pay the fine.

The case against the airline, which was accused in the same court of landing the dog illegally at London's Heathrow airport, was adjourned pending further inquiries.

Mr. Al Gibali said he would appeal against the fine.

The British government recently stepped up its anti-rabies campaign by advising magistrates to impose heavy fines on people who bring their pets into the country without subjecting them to quarantine first. Many travellers have been fined the maximum £400 for the offence in the last months.



NDRINGHAM SAMBA FINDS A NEW MASTER — Queen Elizabeth II watches as President Giscard d'Estaing of France makes the two-year-old black Labrador gundog, "Sandringham," the welcoming gift from The Queen to mark the President's recent State Visit to Britain. Princess Margaret (left) and Ma Valery d'Estaing also took part in the informal presentation on the terrace of Buckingham Palace.

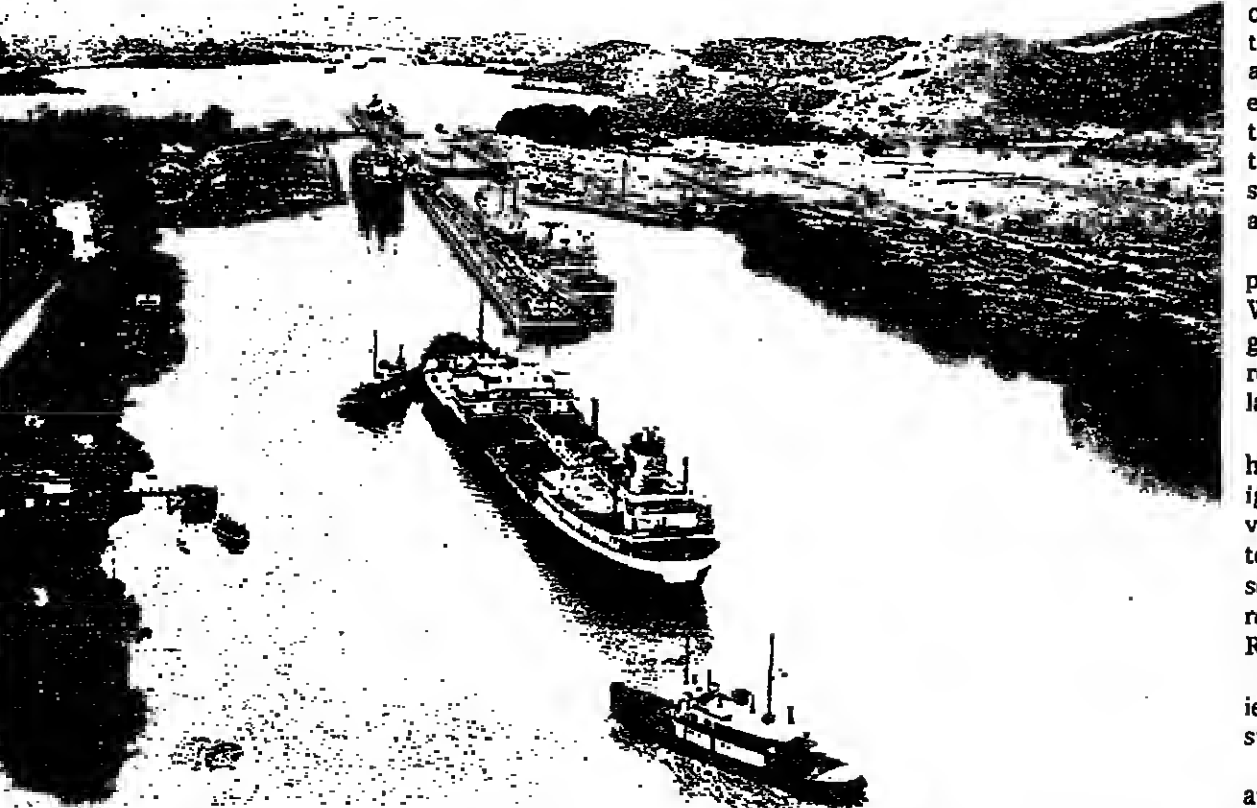
ed Cross Committee cites protests to Israel

NEVA, July 3 (R). — The International Red Cross Committee yesterday said it protested regularly to the Israeli authorities about overcrowding. The Red Cross committee reported that it had intervened several times with the Israeli authorities about overcrowding. The Red Cross distributed nearly 38,000 packages to prisoners, and organised family visits to the prisoners for 32,788 people. It arranged family reunions across the de-marcation lines for nearly 18,000 imprisoned in Israel and the people.

Tender Extension Announcement

The Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. announces the extension of submitting Tenders for tender No. 14F/76 Handling And Storing Facilities El-Hassa Mine - Millsite No. 2, till Tuesday 31st August 1976 12:00 hrs instead of Saturday 31st July 1976. JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO.

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We specialise in European and Oriental dishes served in a relaxing atmosphere. Your family and guests are sure to be pleased by the superb cookery of our experienced chef. Facilities available for large groups.
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The Panama Canal's Pedro Miguel locks as viewed from the south: how long will the Canal zone stay in America's hands.

Patrol beats iceberg hazards in North Atlantic

Like overturned buildings, the massive grey forms drift silently in the fog-bound waters. Although sometimes bigger than the ships they menace giant icebergs are no longer the terrors of the deep.

The International Ice Patrol, crossing and recrossing thousands of square miles of the North Atlantic, plays a winning game of hide and seek in fair weather or foul.

Subsidised by a consortium of maritime nations whose ships ply the busy sea-lanes of the Atlantic, the Iceberg Patrol is manned by the U.S. Coast Guard.

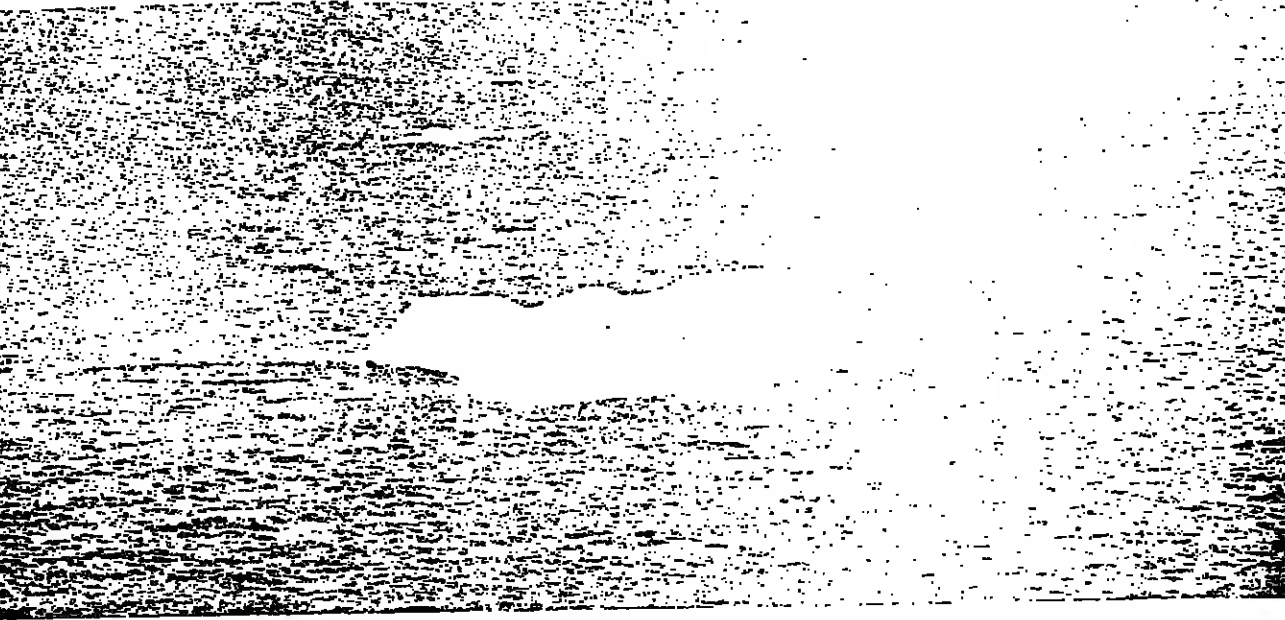
Though there are many areas on the high seas with dangerous ice, there is one area of several thousand square miles near Newfoundland that presents the greatest hazards.

But ships passing through that region are warned through daily broadcasts by the International Ice Patrol of the estimated position of hazardous icebergs and the direction they're drifting.

To help predict icebergs that will be drifting south into the shipping lanes, long-range flights are made regularly from Newfoundland, up the coast of Labrador, and across to Greenland.

The patrol area covers 33,000 square miles of pack ice, swirling currents and drifting mountains of ice.

The patrols begin in February and have runs as late as August. Flights, averaging 1,400 miles, are made by four-engine Hercules C-130s.

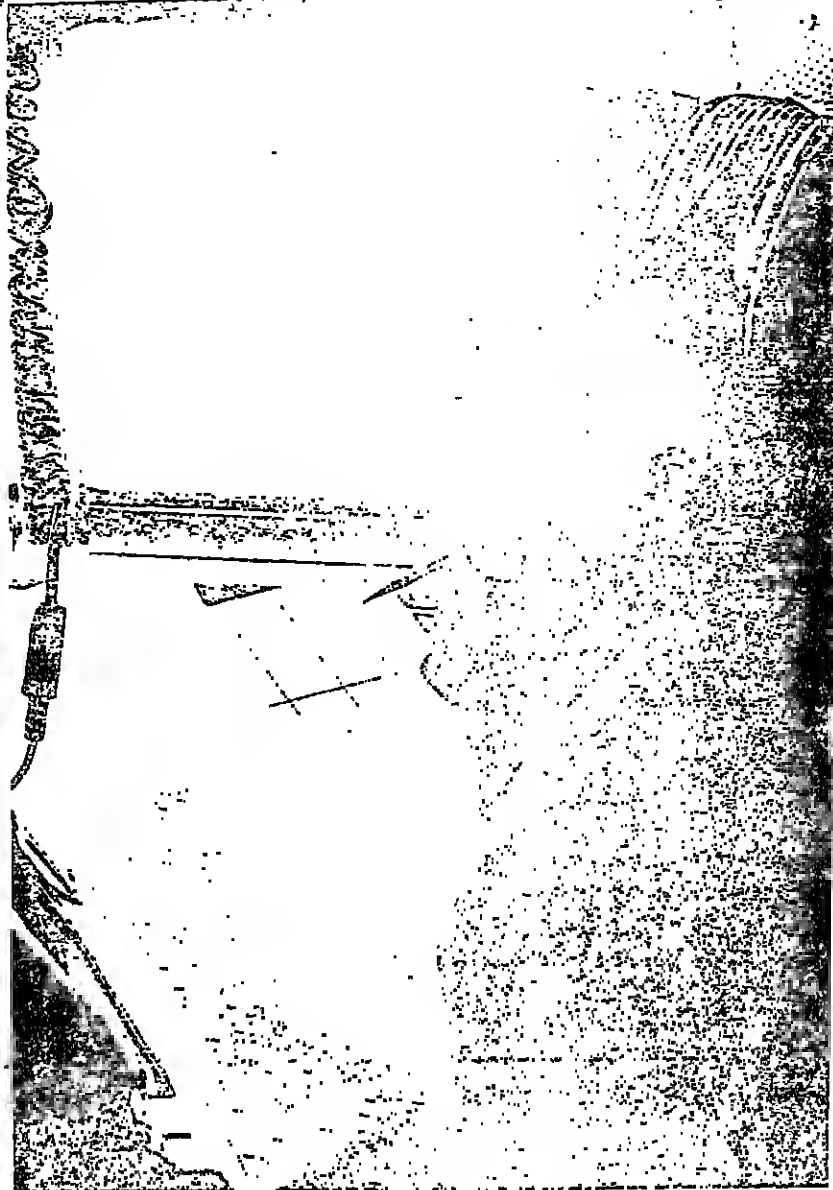


Medium size iceberg in the Labrador Sea. Only 18% shows above the surface, and therefore it presents a great threat to passing ships.

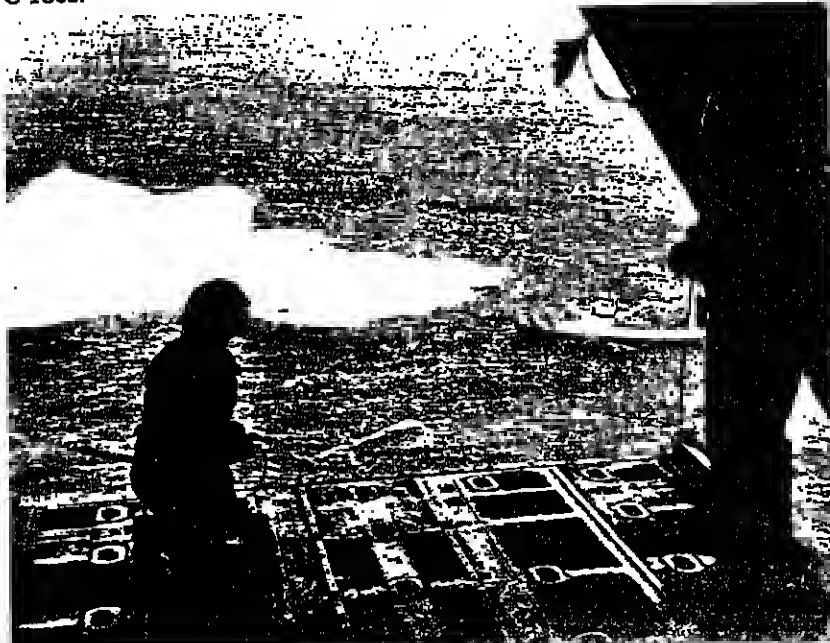
Over the years before the Ice Patrol was formed by international agreement in 1914, many ships sank because of collisions with icebergs.

The major incident leading directly to the formation of the patrol was the sinking of the Titanic in 1912, when the "unsinkable" ship went down on her maiden voyage, taking more than 1,500 passengers and crew with her after ripping into an iceberg off Newfoundland.

Since the patrol was formed, no ships have been lost during peacetime in that critical area as a result of collisions with icebergs (CSM).

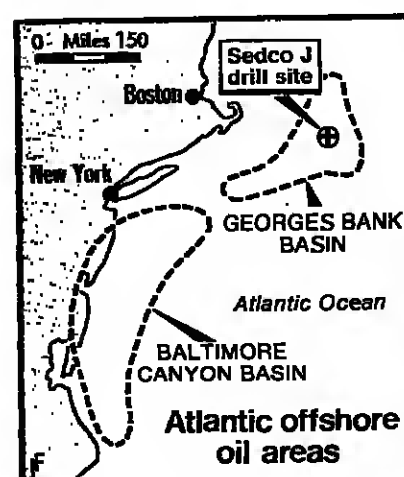


U.S. Coast Guard iceberg spotter with map of coast of Labrador.



View from a Hercules C130-B searching for icebergs. Below, a Coast Guard cutter noses up to an iceberg for an examination.

Considerable East Coast find may cut U.S. oil dependence



companies typically pay too little for offshore leases, with the public the loser.

In denying the latter charge, oilmen point to the large outlays of cash not only for leases but for exploration and drilling. These costs may not be recouped for 8 to 16 years after the initial leasing, they argue.

The hunt for oil off the East Coast, California, and Alaska goes forward at a time when oil yield in the Gulf of Mexico has begun to taper off.

Oil production for the Gulf peaked in 1971, estimates Otto Harrison, an offshore production planner for Exxon in Houston. "The curve for natural gas is still rising slightly," he adds, pointing out that many new wells are producing gas rather than oil.

"After a long period of exploration, you will find more and more of what is there," Charles I. Blackburn, Shell's vice-president for exploration and production, says of production levels in the Gulf. "About two-thirds of what is there has already been found, and a good bit of the potential remaining is in the deeper water." That means sharply higher drilling costs.

Depth of water is not the only cost pressure in offshore drilling. Weather must be considered as well, especially in the Atlantic and off Alaska. The Sedco J rig is built to withstand waves up to 75 feet, a size unknown in the calm waters of the Gulf but possible in the stormy Atlantic.

Drilling costs off the Massachusetts coast run at \$65,000 a day. A similar operation would cost about \$45,000 in the Gulf.

Sedco's drilling operation in 150-foot-deep water began in April. Drilling is scheduled to continue until the end of July, with a target depth of 17,000 feet. The well's current depth is a closely guarded secret, because it could tip off other companies not helping with the drilling costs on what kinds of geological structures

the drill bit is munching through.

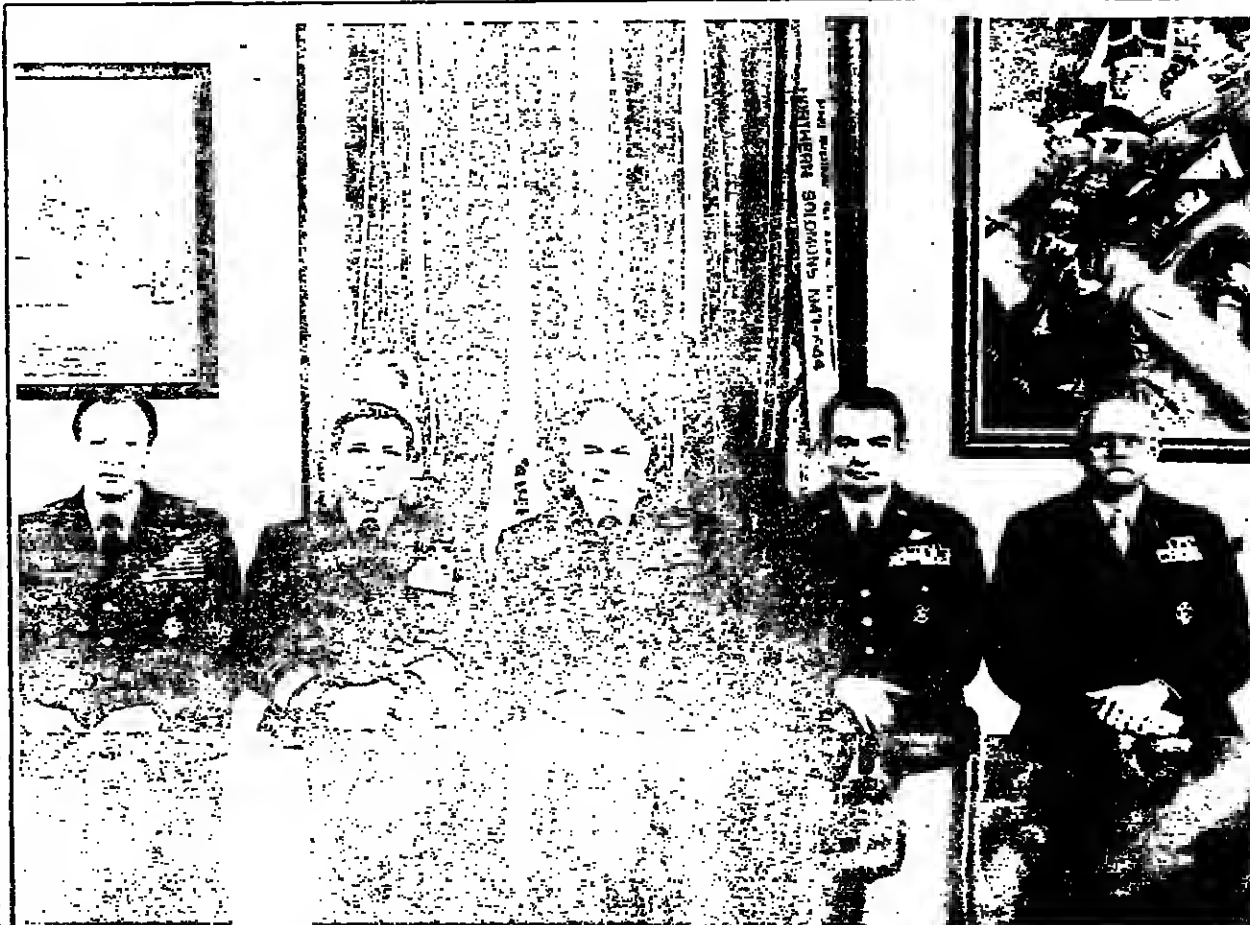
The rig previously did a four-month exploratory drilling stint off the New Jersey coast in an area known as the Baltimore Canyon.

Along with Georges Bank and the Baltimore Canyon, another East Coast area thought to be promising for oil is the Blake Basin off Georgia and Florida.

Sales of oil leases currently are scheduled for the Baltimore Canyon next month and then for Georges Bank in February of 1977. Information from the two test wells drilled by Sedco J will be used by participating oil companies to decide how much they will bid.

Based on previously available data, the U.S. Geological Survey USGS has estimated that undiscovered recoverable oil reserves off the U.S. East Coast total 2 billion to 4 billion barrels of oil and 5 to 14 trillion cubic feet of gas.

The USGS figures reveal, moreover, that federally leased areas in the Gulf of Mexico have already yielded 3.3 billion barrels of oil and 27.5 trillion cubic feet of gas in some 30 years of drilling. Undiscovered recoverable reserves in the Gulf are estimated at 3 to 8 billion barrels of oil and more than 18 trillion cubic feet of gas.



U.S. MILITARY LEADERS — The Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon in Washington. From left are: General Frederick C. Weyand, Army Chief of Staff; Admiral James L. Holloway III, Chief of Naval Operations; General George S. Brown of the Air Force, chairman; General David C. Jones, Air Force Chief of Staff, and General Louis H. Wilson, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps. The Joint Chiefs advise the President, the National Security Council, and the Secretary of Defense on military matters.

Economic Viewpoint By Dr. Haitham Hurani

Capital accumulation for economic growth

Last week I discussed the importance of labour productivity to achieve economic growth. This week I will deal with another significant factor, the increase in net investment as part of the minimum effort needed for a nation's economic "take-off."

The five-year development plan places major emphasis on investments in both the economic and social sectors as important means of achieving the goals of the plans.

Fixed investments during the plan period are estimated at JD765 million, shared evenly between the public and private sector. I well recognise the role of the private sector in this connection, but I still believe that a closer look at Jordan's pattern of consumption is urgently required to identify the policy measures needed to correct the current local and foreign flow of consumer items.

In principle, to attain an increase in real GNP we need to expand the productive capacity of Jordan's economy, and this requires building capital goods such as factories, machines, transport facilities, etc. In order to do that, a portion of current output must be diverted into investment. In other words, to increase net investment, Jordanians must refrain from consuming a portion of their current output and save it for the purpose of accumulating capital. Hence some sacrifice is required on the part of the Jordanian people with respect to satisfying their immediate desires and needs for the purpose of attaining a better future.

How far can voluntary domestic savings go toward meeting capital requirements to achieve economic growth targets? I realise that in underdeveloped countries the rate of voluntary savings is low, and the existing institutions are not very successful in mobilising such savings. In addition to the current inflation problem, we find a large proportion of the population has incomes so low and number of dependents so large that virtually all current income must be spent to maintain a subsistence level of consumption and life.

One has to keep in mind the considerable disparity in income levels among wage earners the upper income level, the average and the lower income groups. In general, we find people often assign considerable prestige to conspicuous consumption.

This propensity seems to be reinforced by the so-called "demonstration effect" of the higher level of income, try to emulate standards of consumption in advanced Western countries; this is a healthy phenomenon, especially with a country like Jordan.

All accept that Jordan is not a richly endowed country and needs serious efforts to raise its GNP. The savings of the rich group play a substantial role in domestic capital formation. To mobilise these savings, a new financial policy must be initiated which restricts importing consumer goods and encourages importing capital goods. Also, we must promote new attitude which discredits emulating Western pattern of consumption, and how those who contribute to strengthening the economy.

On the other hand, the middle and lower income groups can contribute to the investment target of the plan through purchasing government securities to help finance the plan. The government intends to sell a total of JD110 million in the form of securities. To accomplish this task successfully the government should attach special features to its obligations — maturity and interest rates should be patterned as far as possible to fit current savings habits. Government securities should be easily convertible to cash, and interest rates might be made rise as the obligation approaches maturity. Another suggestion to encourage selling government bonds is to design a certain kind which bears no stipulated interest but appreciates in value as it approaches maturity. This kind of security can attract the eye of those savers who are willing to purchase government bonds who shun the interest-bearing securities because of religious reservations.

EEC commission forecasts rapid economic growth

BRUSSELS, July 3 (R). — Economic growth in the European Common Market will be rapid until the end of the year, the EEC Executive Commission said today.

The commission said that the gross domestic product — the sum total of goods and services produced — of the nine community countries would increase by about 4 1/2 per cent during 1976.

A similar increase was likely next year, the executive said in a paper setting forth economic guidelines for the EEC governments to follow.

The commission said that for the remainder of this year, Britain, Italy, and to a lesser extent Ireland, could experience more rapid growth than had been expected, "provided the tendencies towards stabilisation at home and abroad become firmer."

On the other hand, the growth rates of West Germany and France would probably come down closer to the community average during the next months, the paper said.

Saudi embassy in Stockholm rocked by explosion

STOCKHOLM, July 3 (R). — An explosion rocked the Saudi Arabian embassy here today and set off a large fire, but no injuries have been reported, police said.

The explosion at 06:10 GMT apparently occurred in the bathroom of the embassy, a mansion next to the Skansen open air museum.

Thick grey smoke was visible for miles around as fire brigades from four stations worked to extinguish the blaze. The roof of the embassy collapsed. No other buildings appeared threatened.

The fire was still raging more than an hour after the explosion. A fire brigade spokesman said the bathroom in the embassy building was entirely destroyed in the explosion. He added they did not rule out the possibility of sabotage.

Dhofar refugees return home

MUSCAT, July 3 (R). — More than 300 tribesmen who sought refuge in neighbouring South Yemen during the civil war in Oman's southern Dhofar province have now returned to Oman, the defence ministry reported today.

It said in a statement that the refugees, whose homes were in western Dhofar, had been prevented by left-wing insurgents from seeking refuge in government-controlled areas.

They were forced instead to cross the border into South Yemen where they had been living under conditions of some hardship, the ministry said.

They re-crossed the border in safety as the insurgents were no longer able to exercise control over them, it added.

Oman's Sultan Qaboos announced late last year that the 10-year rebellion led by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman had been finally crushed.

Survey says China steady progress marked by impressive technological feat

HONG KONG, July 3 (AP). — China's economy has sped in the last ten years, states a Peking survey carried in the local leftwing journal Ta Pao.

It points out that in the past decade China has successfully completed its third and fourth year plans, agriculture and industry have surged while successful hydrogen-bomb tests and the turn of a man-made earth's orbit to earth as scheduled mark new level in the nation's technological advance.

In the same period prices have been kept stable with a flourishing market and financial revolution and expenditures in balance.

The survey states that the successful fulfilment of the two year plans had enabled China to make another step forward in building up an independent and paratively comprehensive industrial system and national economy.

Farm mechanisation has speeded up and at present China grain and most of its industrial crops meet the primary need construction and the feeding clothing of its 800 million people, the survey adds.

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Morocco, Mauritania threaten to leave OAU over Sahara dispute

PORT LOUIS, Mauritius, July 3 (AFP) — Morocco and Mauritania today threatened to leave the 48-nation Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in an intensifying dispute over their occupation of the former Spanish Sahara at the OAU conference here.

A member of the Moroccan delegation, Mahdi Bennouma, called a press conference as African head of state and government met in closed session on this second day of the summit and said the two north west African nations could well pull out if there was any debate in the summit itself on a resolution adopted by the council of ministers last night.

The resolution — sponsored by Benin (formerly Dahomey) — affirmed "the inalienable right of the people of the Spanish Sahara to self-determination and national independence."

Mauritania's Foreign Minister Hamdi Ould Moukassab earlier described the resolution as "inspired by Algeria." Algeria backs the Polisario nationalist movement which opposes the takeover of the phosphate-rich desert territory by Morocco and Mauritania under their decolonisation agreement with Spain last year.

Unless the OAU summit conference now forced respect for the organisation's charter, Mr. Ould

Rhodesia denies attack claims

SALISBURY, July 3 (AFP) — The Rhodesian government has again denied launching an attack on the Mozambique border village of Mapai, 55 miles (90 km) from the Rhodesian border.

"As stated previously, there is no truth in this allegation," a government spokesman said.

The spokesman was asked to comment on South African press reports quoting an eye-witness who visited Mapai, saying it had been "razed to the ground" after an attack by ground forces and aircraft, including jets.

Mapai lies in the southern part of Mozambique near the South African border.

The Mozambique government claimed in a communique that the attack on Mapai was made last weekend. A Rhodesian government reply to the allegation earlier this week said it was "absolute nonsense" and that the Mozambique claims were "so outrageous as to be considered laughable."

Art Deco gets second chance in interior decoration

NEW YORK, N. Y. (CSM) — Art Deco — the design look of the 1920s and 1930s — is enjoying a second-time-around revival in interior decoration. Pure geometry is its mainstay, gleaming "modernity" its aura.

Some of the major features of Art Deco decor can be interpreted and modified for today's suburban townhouse living.

In one such house, a dusty-rose plush carpeting in a nylon and acrylic blend is used throughout. A super graphic paper on one dining-room wall is bold and colourful and is re-emphasised many times as its reflection is caught repeatedly in the chrome and poli-



Upholstered chairs with glass and chrome table from Founders: a return to the early years of the century.



BOMB WATCH — Argentine police form a security blockade in downtown Buenos Aires Friday shortly after a bomb ripped through a police station there. (AP wirephoto).

Libya invests \$7m. More killings in Argentina

VALETTA, Malta, July 3 (AFP) — Libya has agreed to invest \$7 million in a \$56 million shipyard planned for construction here, Maltese Prime Minister Dom Mintoff said in a televised broadcast.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed, but Libya has said that another Arab country will also invest in the shipyard, Mr. Mintoff announced.

He said foreign participation in other projects is currently being negotiated with German and Italian interests, including cooperation on a television station beamed towards Italy.

Eanes, Soares discuss cabinet composition

LISBON, July 3 (AFP) — Portuguese Socialist Party chief Mario Soares and President-elect Ramalho Eanes met here last night for a talk, it was reported today, but the nature of the talk was not made public.

It is however generally supposed they discussed problems concerning the composition and programme of the government that Mr. Soares will be asked to form as soon as General Eanes assumes office as head of state. This is expected to be any time after July 15.

Sources close to Mr. Soares refuse to give any indication as to who will be in the government. Observers have nonetheless noted a published statement by Mr. Soares that the new cabinet must represent the various "national for-

ces," both political parties and trade unions, even if the parties "are not represented in the government."

In a press conference Thursday on his return from Bonn, Mr. Soares also said that his government would operate a policy of consultation and dialogue with all "social partners" and parliamentary groups, including the communists.

Mr. Soares also said he intended to contact all the parties represented in the assembly.

Informed Socialist Party sources said, meanwhile, that the government's composition and programme would be communicated to the leaders of those parties before being made public.

All of which inclines some observers to think that the door is still open for negotiations.

They also believe that among prominent "independents" who will be included in the minority socialist government could be persons linked with other parties, including the communists. This solution might be an element of negotiation, Communist Party sources say.

Mr. Soares has also said that his government will be one of "national safety," an expression used up to now to indicate a broad-based coalition government.

Nineiry accuses unnamed neighbour of coup attempt

(Continued from page 1) "We were attacked by a group of dissidents supported by foreign quarters in an attempt to overthrow the May revolution and its leader Jaafar Nimeiry."

The president did not specify the foreign quarters he said were involved.

He thanked Egypt and its President Anwar Sadat for their great stand towards Sudan. King Khalid of Saudi Arabia was also praised for "personally following the situation in Sudan."

President Nimeiry said his government had collected "numerous facts and information... but this is not the time for revealing them."

He pledged that the Sudanese armed forces were able to defeat "any conspiracy and traitor."

Eyewitnesses said the latest coup attempt was staged 10 minutes after the president flew into Khartoum airport yesterday just before 5 a.m. (03:00 GMT).

The president's whereabouts remained a mystery until this morning when it was announced that he was personally supervising operations against the rebels.

Fighting in the streets of the capital was fierce yesterday. But today it was said to be sporadic, with loyal forces concentrating

could also have smuggled the bomb, said to have been made of about eight kilos (17 pounds) of plastic explosive studded with shrapnel, into the security department.

The building, and nearby federal police headquarters, are guarded around the clock by helmeted and flak-jacketed riot police armed with machine guns. Normally nobody is allowed in without being searched — including policemen arriving for duty.

The army, which has overall charge of police operations, said 18 people were killed and 66 injured by yesterday's blast in the dining room of the police building here.

As detectives tried to discover how the bomb was planted in one of their most heavily-guarded buildings, the crew of a patrol car found the corpses of eight young men.

Police sources said all had been gunned down by heavy automatic fire and that two unexploded bombs were found beside the bodies.

Police chiefs arranged a mass funeral for the security department victims. President Jorge Videla and the other members of Argentina's ruling military junta were expected to attend.

Telephone callers claiming to represent the leftwing peronist Montoneros urban guerrilla group told local news offices it was responsible for yesterday's blast.

Two weeks ago the Montoneros also claimed responsibility for an explosion which killed federal police chief Cesario Cardozo at his home.

Police named 20-year-old Ana Maria Gonzalez, a friend of General Cardozo's daughter, as the person who placed a bomb under his bed.

They were working on the theory that a guerrilla sympathiser

good.

The hijackers' refusal to see the PLO emissary and the disclaimer of responsibility by the PFLP has raised questions about who they are.

It is also still not clear how they managed to get their explosives and automatic weapons into the aircraft.

Another Air France plane is standing by in Nairobi to fly in within a few hours if needed.

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Ford expected to reap political gains from U.S. Bicentennial celebrations

WASHINGTON, July 3 (R). — America's 200th birthday celebrations this weekend pushed politics into the background, but promise to win President Ford valuable points in his bruising election campaign with Ronald Reagan.

As president, Mr. Ford is playing a leading role in the festivities, and by the time they reach a climax on Monday night he will have appeared many times on television and made six major patriotic speeches in five days.

The public appearances in his presidential role are likely to attract middle-of-the-road votes.

Only a few days ago he was also endorsed by Senator Barry Goldwater, the party's unsuccessful 1964 presidential candidate. This could earn him support from more conservative voters, the base of Mr. Reagan's strength.

Every little bit will help as Mr. Ford tries to hold his very slim lead in the race for the 1,130 delegate votes needed for nomination at the national Republican convention in Kansas City next month.

The winner will face the assured Democratic nominee, Jimmy Carter, in November to fight for the presidency.

While Mr. Ford gets wide exposure during the Bicentennial celebrations, Mr. Reagan has been resting at his California home since last weekend.

On Tuesday, the former California governor and ex-Hollywood actor will make a major speech for which he has bought 30 minutes' television time.

He may grasp the chance to use recent increases in inflation and unemployment to attack Mr. Ford's main campaign theme of an improving economy.

Then he will go back on the road campaigning before the final four Republican state conventions.

Ironically, these final delegate-choosing sessions in the Ford-Rea-

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